*Pelvis*, there was near Six Ounces of fetid Matter lying between the *Rectum* and *Uterus*, which near its Neck was perforated, and the Parts were very rotten. From its Neck almoſt to the Extremity of the *Vagina*, the Muſcles of the *Anus* were nearly deſtroyed. ——There were ſome few indurated little Tumours adhering looſely to the Cyſt of the *Fœtus*. ——There were ſeveral little Parts appeared like carious Bones found in the Matter contained in the *Pelvis*.——

From what has been ſaid, it appears that the *Fœtus* had been Nine Years in the *Abdomen*.

---

## VIII. *A Letter from Mr.* John Powell, *to Sir* Hans Sloane, *Bart. Pr.* R. S. *&c. concerning a Gentlewoman who voided with her Urine, hairy cruſtaceous Subſtances: To which is annexed Sir* Hans Sloane's *Anſwer, containing ſeveral Obſervations of extraordinary Subſtances voided by the Urinary Paſſages.*

*Honoured SIR,* *Pembroke, July* 16. 1733.

HAving the Opportunity of ſending now to *London* by a ſafe Hand, I make bold to ſend you in a Box, ſome things that a worthy Divine's Daughter of this Neighbourhood, whoſe Father has been ſome Years dead, and her Husband now too, has voided ever ſince *Michaelmas* laſt was Two Years,

Years, unleſs it were about Nine or Ten Weeks laſt Summer. She is near 40 Years of Age, and has been married about 17 Years, and had a Child about 12 Years ago, that lived about Nine Weeks.

About *Auguſt* laſt was Two Years, ſhe was ſeized with a Stoppage in her Urine, a ſmall Pain in her Bladder, and a great Pain in the Bottom of her Feet, with the making of whitiſh Water like Whey; and ſhe had then a great Weakneſs in her Limbs, and a Pain in her Bowels; for which another Gentleman, Six Miles off hence, ordered her to go into the cold Bath, by which ſhe found great Benefit for the Pains in her Limbs; but the Pain in her making Water rather increaſed, and then her Urine began to grow fetid; and about *Chriſtmas* was Two Years, ſhe voided the largeſt of the Things you find in the Box, without any very great Pain then, being ſhe had taken a quieting Draught that Night to compoſe her; but, almoſt ever ſince, they put her to moſt exquiſite Pain before ſhe can get them off; and ſhe is commonly forced to take the ſmall Part of the hairy Part between her Fingers, before ſhe can get them off; and oftentimes a good deal of Blood comes off with her plucking them, which makes her very ſore inwardly.

Upon uſing gentle Evacuations laſt Spring was Twelvemonth, ſhe grew much better; ſuch as Vomiting with the *Hypecacuanha*, Purging with *Manna*, Oil of Sweet Almonds, *&c.* and, taking ſometimes Calomel the Nights before, and very often diuretic and balſamic Pills, with and without *Trochiſc. Gordon.* and emollient Decoctions and Emulſions of ſeveral Kinds, the Fetor and Roapineſs in her Urine abated, and ſhe was pretty hearty and brisk, ſo that

ſhe

ſhe undertook laſt *Auguſt* a Journey into *Hereford-ſhire*, and ſtaid there near Two Months, and, I fear, ſhe might take ſome Cold in her Journey; for her Pains grew worſe, and more troubleſome, after her return home; and ſhe then voided great Quantities of thoſe large Subſtances, as well as ſmall, that you ſee; and her Urine grew extraordinary ropy and fetid, notwithſtanding all the Endeavours of another Gentleman and myſelf; and very often the Subſtance ſhe voided would be ſo ſtiff and ropy, that we could ſcarce ſeparate it from the Pot; at other times ſo pliant, that you might take it up a great Height with a Sprig of a Broom, or a Feather, and ſo fall down again like a Lump into the Pot.

She has for this conſiderable time voided one or more of theſe hairy cruſtaceous Subſtances every Day or Night; they looking, when they are firſt voided, like Hair and Coralline; and her Pains are ſo very exquiſite, that we are forced, every Third Night at fartheſt, to give her an Anodyne to quiet her; and that often cannot be done, her Pain being ſo very great.

The Continuance of this ſevere Pain has brought her to a very conſiderable Weakneſs, and almoſt a total Loſs of Fleſh; and, what is her great Misfortune, (eſpecially at this Seaſon of the Year) that Milk will by no means agree with her: She has often tried to conquer it, but never could, it conſtantly making her very ſick in her Stomach, and ſhe vomiting it up in great large Lumps.

We have uſed Injections of Two or Three Sorts, but ſhe cannot well bear them; and ſhe has had her *Menſes* very regularly, till within the Two or Three laſt

Times; and for theſe 10 or 12 Days paſt, ſhe has complained of a Swelling in her Belly, but none in her Thighs nor Legs.

One thing I had almoſt forgot to have told you, that ſhe has often found a *Crepitus*, or a breaking of Wind, as it were, in her Bladder; which would make one believe, that there is an Aperture from the *Inteſtinum Rectum* to the Bladder.

Her Bladder has been ſearched, and the Surgeon who did it, aſſures her, he can diſcover no Stone; and he is a very ingenious Perſon in his Profeſſion.

She has for theſe Four or Five laſt Days complained, at times, of aſthmatic Fits, which I muſt attribute to the Heat of the Weather.

The Voiding of theſe hairy cruſtaceous Subſtances never occurred to me in my Practice before; though I have above once had Perſons voided large Bladders, like the *Hydatids* in Fiſh, and large Quantities of them, and cured them.

Theſe Subſtances therefore I beg Leave to ſend to you, being, I reckon, there is ſcarce any thing that eſcapes your Obſervation: But whether they have, or have not, I deſire your Opinion of them; and beg you will be pleaſed to inform me what Courſe you judge moſt proper I ſhould take with her.

*SIR,*

*Your moſt obliged, humble,*
*and obedient Servant,*

John Powell.

*P. S.*

She drank the Hot-well-waters both at *Briſtol* and here, but with little Succeſs; has taken *Cantharides* in-

inwardly, as preſcribed by Dr. *Groenvelt*, in Ulcers of the Bladder, and all other things we could think of.

## *Sir* Hans Sloane's *Anſwer to Mr.* Powell.

*SIR*, *London, July* 26. 1733.

I Received yours of the 16th Two Days ſince, together with the Box, and Contents thereof; which I have conſidered, and am ſatisfied, that the hairy Excretions are generated moſt likely in her Kidneys. I have ſeen, in my Practice, ſome Inſtances of the like, and have by me what was brought off by Urine from ſome of them. The firſt I remember, was from a Gentleman near the *Exchange*, who would frequently, Forty Years ſince, void with his Urine long Hairs, which were received on white Paper; and, the Urine paſſing off, would remain there, and, by their Tranſparency and Angles, yielded, on viewing by a Microſcope, the fineſt Colours imaginable, ſuch as we find by a Priſm. This Gentleman did not ſuffer much, though he complained of a Sharpneſs of Urine. The Perſon who was affected the moſt, and applied to me for Help, was a Brewer, who had ſuch Hairs matted or woven together, voided by Urine with great Pain: But then there was no calculous Matter, or very little, added to them. It is very likely, that that Matter is added to thoſe of your Patient in the Bladder, by being retained there. I have a Pin, that a young Woman had ſwallowed, and was afterwards taken

out of her Groin from an Apoſtem after a Tumour; which Pin was covered or incruſted, as theſe hairy Subſtances, with ſuch calculous Matter, and got there from the Urine in her Bladder, where in all likelihood it had contracted that Cruſt. I have a ſilver Bodkin, the broad End of which is covered with a pretty large Stone. A poor Gentlewoman thought, by thruſting this Bodkin up the *Meatus urinarius*, to remove a Stone which preſſed upon the Neck of her Bladder, and it ſlipt paſt Recovery into her Bladder; whence, after Three Years, it was taken, and on which, as on a Centre, was bred the Stone. I have other Inſtances of the ſame, where an extraneous Body, paſſed into the Bladder, hath proved as a Centre to attract or have affixed to it ſuch Matter.

As to the Cure, Dilution ſeems to be the beſt. The Brewer was cured by drinking plentifully of ſoft Liquors, which he often poured down; and twice a Week he took the purging Waters. You may gueſs my Opinion to be, that the leſs is generated of this Matter, and the leſs Time it remains in either Kidneys, *Ureters*, or Bladder, the Diſeaſe will be mitigated, and, I hope, cured. I believe *Bath-waters* drank warm, Mallow-tea, Linſeed-tea, Oil of ſweet Almonds, Syrup of Marſhmallows, little and often taken, with Baths of emollient Herbs, may be of great Uſe; and perhaps moderate Exerciſe may help them off. Opiates, in exceſſive Pain, are neceſſary; and now-and-then Bleeding, to take off the Inflammations that muſt of neceſſity attend ſuch a Diſtemper. I alſo think, that ſome Balſamics, ſuch as *Locatelli's Balſam*, may be uſeful; and perhaps, with the emollient

lient Method, take off that Diſpoſition in the Kidneys, which produces this uncommon Diſtemper. The Pains in her Feet, and about her, ſeem not to have any relation to this Diſtemper; and I am of Opinion, that violent Diuretics or Exerciſe will rather hurt than help her. Thus you have my Thoughts on this very extraordinary Caſe; and I ſhall be very glad to hear of the Iſſue of it, and rejoice if I can be uſeful to you in this or any thing elſe, leaving to you the Determination of what you think reaſonable. I beg Pardon for this haſty caſting together ſome things, which, if I had more Time, ſhould be put into better Order by

*Your moſt obedient,*
*and moſt humble Servant,*

Hans Sloane.

---

## IX. *A Letter from Mr.* T. Knight *to Sir* Hans Sloane, *Bar^t. Pr.* R. S. *&c. concerning* Hair *voided by* Urine.

*Hon^ble SIR,* *Carnarvon, Feb.* 20. 1737.

HAving met with an uncommon Caſe, I thought it proper to communicate the ſame to you, in order to be informed whether the like ever occurred in your long and ſucceſsful Practice, and alſo to beg your Sentiments upon the Matter.

The